

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
ACDA-07 IO-13 TRSE-00 CU-02 AF-10 NSCE-00 SSO-00
USIE-00 INRE-00 EURE-00 /084 W
-----181725Z 125413 /45

O 181600Z APR 77
FM AMEMBASSY BERLIN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4551
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE
USMISSION USBERLIN IMMEDIATE UNN
USMISSION USNATO IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L BERLIN 5775

E.O.11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, PGOV, GE, UK, GW
SUBJECT: GORONWY-ROBERTS DISCUSSES BERLIN DURING VISIT TO GDR

1. UK AMBASSADOR CRADDOCK APRIL 18 PROVIDED FOLLOWING
RUNDOWN ON GORONWY-ROBERTS APRIL 14-15 VISIT TO EAST
BERLIN.

2. ALTHOUGH IT WAS A TRICKY MATTER", CRADDOCK SAID LONDON
HAD DECIDED THAT THE QUESTION OF BERLIN SHOULD BE RAISED
DURING GORONWY-ROBERTS' VISIT. READING FROM NOTES,
CRADDOCK PARAPHRASED GORONWY-ROBERTS' STATEMENT ON BERLIN
TO DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER NIER AS FOLLOWS: AS HAD THE
US AND FRANCE, THE UK ALSO HAD TAKEN CAREFUL NOTE OF
RECENT EVENTS AND MEASURES AROUND BERLIN AND HAD TAKEN
EXCEPTION TO THEM. REPRESENTATIONS HAD BEEN MADE TO THE
USSR. NO ACTIONS OR STATEMENTS BY THIRD STATES COULD
AFFECT THE RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE FOUR
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POWERS IN BERLIN. GORONWY-ROBERTS STRESSED THAT IN
BERLIN, WHERE THE THREE WESTERN POWERS TOOK THEIR
RESPONSIBILITIES VERY SERIOUSLY, ACTIONS SUCH AS THOSE
MENTIONED COULD NOT BUT AFFECT THE SMOOTH DEVELOPMENT
OF BILATERAL UK/GDR RELATIONS. FURTHERMORE, AS WITH
THE FRENCH AND US, THE UK WAS ANXIOUS TO MAINTAIN
AGREEMENTS SIGNED BY THE FOUR POWERS. GORONWY-ROBERTS

WAS CERTAIN THE GDR WOULD WEIGH CAREFULLY WHAT HE HAD SAID CONCERNING BILATERAL RELATIONS AS WELL AS THE INTERNATIONAL SITUATION GENERALLY.

3. IN REPLY, ACCORDING TO CRADDOCK, NIER SAID THE GDR DID NOT SEE THIS AS A BILATERAL QUESTION. THE MEASURES WHICH WERE INSTITUTED WERE IN EXERCISE OF GDR SOVEREIGNTY AND DID NOT AFFECT THE INTERESTS OF OTHERS. CONCERNING THE REPRESENTATIONS TO THE USSR, THESE DID NOT CONCERN HIM, BUT HE HAD BEEN INFORMED THAT THE USSR HAD MADE AN APPROPRIATE REPLY. THE GDR VALUED THE QUADRIPARTITE AGREEMENT ON WEST BERLIN VERY HIGHLY. IT WAS NOT A SIGNATORY STATE BUT, IN CONSULTATION WITH THE USSR, IT HAD MADE AN ACTIVE CONTRIBUTION TO ITS CONCLUSION. THE QUADRIPARTITE RESPONSIBILITIES WERE CLEARLY SET OUT IN THE AGREEMENT. THE GDR FAVORED STRICT OBSERVANCE BY BOTH SIDES AND THE MAINTANANCE OF IT WOULD HAVE BENEFICIAL EFFECTS ON DETENTE. ACCORDING TO CRADDOCK, THIS CONSTITUTED THE EXCHANGE ON BERLIN WHICH CAME AT THE END OF A DISCUSSION ON BILATERAL ISSUES.

4. AFTER GORONWY-ROBERTS' MEETING WITH NIER, BRITISH JOURNALISTS ASKED WHETHER BERLIN HAD BEEN RAISED DURING THE DISCUSSIONS. GORONWY-ROBERTS REPLIED THAT WHILE MATTERS AFFECTING BERLIN WERE FOR DISCUSSION WITH THE SOVIETS, IN THE COURSE OF HIS TALKS THERE HAD BEEN A SHORT REFERENCE TO BERLIN AND THE GDR HAD BEEN LEFT IN NO DOUBT CONCERNING THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT'S ATTITUDE OVER RECENT DEVELOPMENTS.

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5. CRADDOCK TOUCHED BRIEFLY ON OTHER TIEMS RAISED DURING THE DISCUSSIONS, NOTING THAT IT WOULD BE POSSIBLE TO GET A FULLER ACCOUNT LATER THIS WEEK, ONCE THE EMBASSY HAD HAD A CHANCE TO SORT OUT ITS NOTES. HE SAID THE GDR EXPRESSED AN INTEREST IN KNOWING WHEN THE FOREIGN SECRETARY WOULD BE COMING TO THE GDR, AND WERE TOLD THAT LONDON WOULD TAKE A LOOK AT ANY INVITATION EXTENDED TO HIM.

6. DURING THE VISIT A HEALTH AGREEMENT WAS SIGNED, WHICH PROVIDES FOR EXCHANGES IN THIS GENERAL AREA AS WELL AS FOR RECIPROCAL HEALTH CARE FOR GDR/UK CITIZENS WHO MIGHT BECOME ILL DURING VISITS TO THE OTHER'S COUNTRY. CRADDOCK SAID THERE WAS FURTHER DISCUSSION OF A CULTURAL AGREEMENT, AS WELL AS A GDR DRAFT FOR A LEGAL ASSISTANCE AGREEMENT WHICH LONDON WOULD BEGIN TO EXAMINE. THE BRITISH RAISED THE MATTER OF HUMANITARIAN CASES, WITH THE GDR CLAIMING THAT THERE WERE NO OUTSTANDING CASES WHEREAS THE BRITISH

SIDE HAS A LIST OF 18 CASES. THE EMBASSY HERE PLANS TO BRING UP SUCH CASES AT A LOWER LEVEL AT SOME POINT. CRADDOCK MADE NO MENTION OF ECONOMIC/COMMERCIAL MATTERS WHICH MIGHT HAVE BEEN DISCUSSED.

7. ON INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS, CRADDOCK SAID THAT THERE HAD BEEN DISCUSSION OF MBFR, CSCE, AND AFRICA, ON CSCE CRADDOCK SAID THE BRITISH HAD TALKED ABOUT THE NEED TO IMPLEMENT IT AS A WHOLE BUT GAVE NO INDICATION OF THE GDR RESPONSE. ON AFRICA, GORONWY-ROBERTS SAID THAT DETENTE SHOULD ALSO EXTEND TO THAT CONTINENT, AND THE GDR APPARENTLY AGREED THAT THERE SHOULD BE NO VIOLATION OF STATE BOUNDARIES. ACCORDING TO CRADDOCK THE ATMOSPHERE OF THE MEETING WAS WARM AND FRIENDLY , WHICH BE ATTRIBUTED IN LARGE PART TO GORONWY-ROBERTS' PERSONALITY.

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8. THE EAST GERMAN PRESS PARIL 16-17 CARRIES BRIEF FRONT PAGE COVERAGE OF THE VISIT, NOTING BOTH SIDES' INTEREST IN THE FURTHER DEVELOPMENT OF BILATERAL RELATIONS AND THAT CSCE WAS ALSO DISCUSSED. POLANSKY

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN RELATIONS, POLICIES, VISITS, STATUS OF BERLIN, BERLIN QUADRIPARTITE MATTERS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 18-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977BERLIN05775
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770134-0281
Format: TEL
From: BERLIN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770448/aaaabppz.tel
Line Count: 144
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 5ecbcb3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 02-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2780268
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: GORONWY-ROBERTS DISCUSSES BERLIN DURING VISIT TO GDR
TAGS: PFOR, PGOV, GC, UK, GE, BERLIN, (GORONWY-ROBERTS)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/5ecbcb3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009